

- Otay Fire 100% contained.
- Cedar Fire charred more acres than any in California history. Rate of fire spread was 6,000 acres per hour the first 36 hours.
- CDF/OES management briefed the California Congressional Delegation.
- The attention of agency administrators was diverted responding to inaccurate allegations by local press and elected officials.
- Reassignments occurred from surplus resources on the Verdale Fire to other fires.
- Cuesta Fire contained at 238 acres. Extensive local mutual aid was key to success.
- Piru Fire burned both in back country and I-zone areas.
- Six Federal airtankers reported damage by debris lofted into the air from the fires.
- Chief of U.S. Forest Service tours So. California fires and consults with state and federal officials.

*“We assigned every available contract airtanker in the nation in order to meet the legal requirements for ordering the military airtankers.”*

Ray Quintanar  
Director of Fire and Aviation Management  
U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region

## Major Resources Committed on October 28th

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (6)	44	199	15	27	282	59,229	35
Piru (7)	43	105	5	23	211	55,812	20
Verdale	0	4	0	0	49	8,650	100
Simi (5)	21	241	9	27	172	97,880	25
Old (1)	39	338	10	7	131	36,780	10
Cedar (2)	28	503	14	14	605	206,000	0
Paradise (3)	28	126	6	8	97	40,000	20
Mountain (8)	12	44	3	0	55	9,890	85
Otay/Mine (9)	8	20	0	0	14	45,971	100
Padua (4)	17	79	3	2	87	9,446	30
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	11,329	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>580,987</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command. \*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.

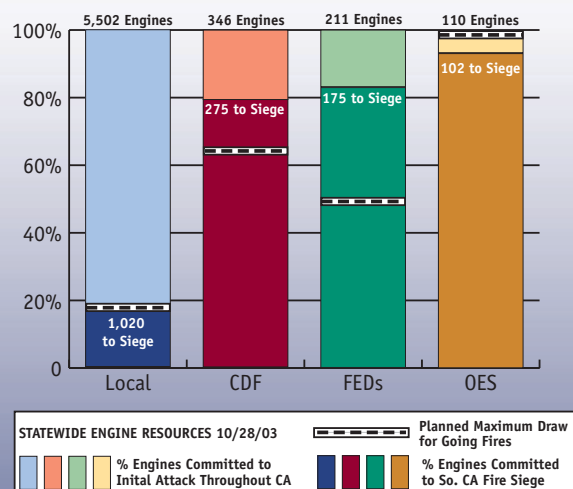
## Weather Facts

	Cajon Pass	Simi Valley	Julian Weather Station
Max. Temperature	93	88	95
Min. Rel. Humidity	10%	12%	9%
Wind	NW7 G14	E4 G11	E15 G21
Fire Danger	extreme	extreme	extreme

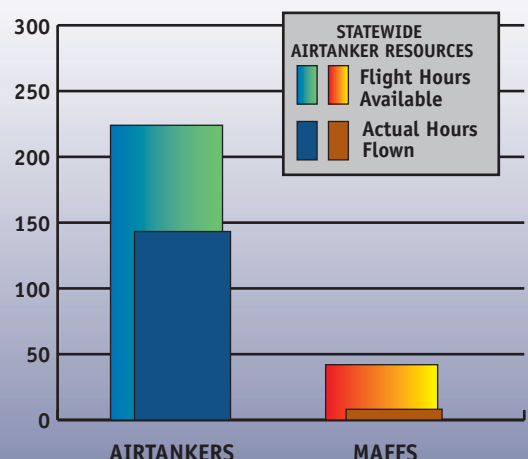
Remarks: Flames lengths reaching 50–200 feet.



## Resources Committed: Engines



## Resources Committed: Airtankers



## Community Impacts

- 90% homes & businesses in Lake Cuyamaca burned by Cedar Fire.
- Firefighters battle to save the community of Julian in San Diego County from the Cedar Fire.
- Air quality situation worsens.
- Mountain Fire road closures lifted.
- Nine additional communities threatened by the Simi Fire.

## Human Factors

- 17 fatalities reported to date
- 13,371 personnel committed to fires to date.

## Decisions

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-4, National-2

- Unified Area Command set up for Old and Grand Prix fires.
- Unified Area Command established for the Cedar and Paradise Fires.
- Aircraft grounded on the Paradise Fire due to smoke and poor visibility.
- The Angeles and Cleveland National Forest ordered a forest closure to public to reduce additional fire threat and ensure public safety.
- Cedar and Paradise crews worked for 48 straight hours without relief. Additional resources were not available.

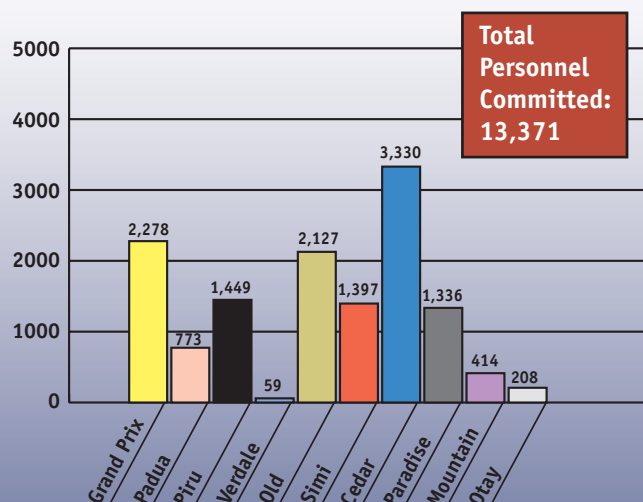
## Damage Assessment

- Mountain Fire damage assessment fairly complete with \$4.5 million in losses and \$80 million saved. Over 41 vehicles and five ATVs burned.
- 1,642 residential, 11 commercial, 262 outbuildings burned to date during siege.
- 580,987 acres burned to date during siege.
- Estimated fire suppression costs to date: \$23,601,223

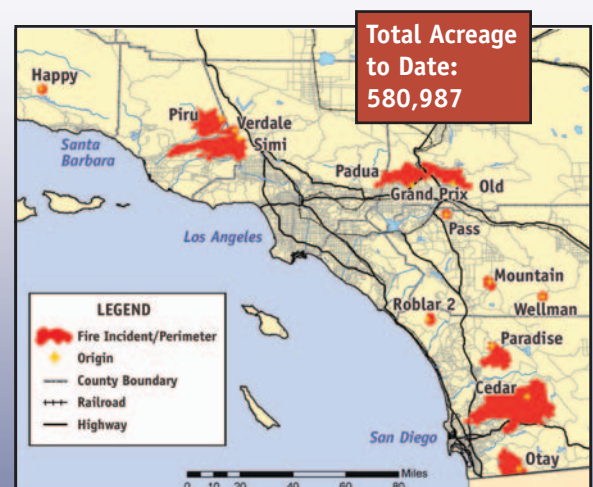


*Commercial buildings are also threatened by the fires.*

## Personnel Committed: Day Eight



## Acreage Involved: Day Eight



# The Weather Enemy

## High winds ground planes, fuel flames

With the siege in full swing, the pool of available resources became smaller as fire activity increased. MACS continued to set priorities twice daily.

Due to strong winds, air operations for the **Paradise Fire** were suspended today. By 6:00 p.m., the fire had grown to 40,000 acres, and the number of residences lost rose to 111 residences, as large fire whirls were observed across the fire. The limited number of resources available continued to hamper control efforts, as firefighters provided structure protection to threatened areas. Crews on both the Paradise and Cedar Fires worked for 48 hours without relief. Additional resources were scheduled to arrive which assisted in making containment targets more achievable and provided some respite for the crews.

### The Roblar 2, Otay/Mine, and Verdale

**Fires** were declared 100 percent contained. Resources were demobilized which allowed for reassignment to other southern California fires.

Strong winds, high temperatures and low humidity continued to challenge firefighters on the **Grand Prix Fire**. Evacuations were lifted for the southern areas of the fire but remained in effect for the Lytle Creek area.

On the **Padua Fire** structures were threatened in the Mount Baldy area, the area remained under a voluntary evacuation order. Structure protection was in place for the 500 residences threatened along the San Gabriel Mountain foothills. Dozers and hand crews continued to secure fireline in order to slow any fire progression in the direction of the Mount Baldy area.

With the change in weather patterns on the **Simi Fire**, fire behavior became erratic early in the day. Firefighting personnel

continued to build fireline in an attempt to prevent the spread of the fire south toward Malibu Canyon. Structure protection was in place for the residences, businesses, and outbuildings that were threatened. Although the winds diminished later in the day, the fire became driven by topography as it continued



*Fire threatens Lytle Creek on the Grand Prix fire.*

its march toward the Santa Clarita, Valencia, and Newhall areas. Evacuations and road closures remained in effect.

High winds, dry conditions, and beetle-killed timber intermixed with thousands of structures continued to present firefighters a complex challenge while battling the **Old Fire**. With flame lengths of 30 to 50 feet and spotting of 500 to 1,000 feet, the fire burned into the Running Springs and Lake Arrowhead areas. Firefighters were able to keep structure loss to a moderate level. Air operations were hampered by thick smoke. Evacuations and road closures remained in effect throughout the area.

Early morning winds drove the **Piru Fire** across the Sespe Drainage toward the community of Santa Paula. With a Red Flag Warning in affect, potential for growth on



this fire was dramatic. As the fire progressed northward, it entered an area of heavy fuels, some of which had not burned in many decades. Upon entering this area, the acreage affected by the Piru Fire increased by more than 50 percent.

The Piru Fire was burning in the Urban Interface and spreading to the Sespe Wilderness Area in the Los Padres National Forest. The fire became both a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fire and a wilderness fire, each requiring different suppression tactics. Firefighting resources were limited and the majority of the responding resources were assigned to the Urban Interface area.

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*...the limited ingress and egress, presented additional challenges for firefighters. With more than 30,000 structures threatened, 1,200 have been destroyed over the past three days of the fire siege. Although 13,330 fire personnel were assigned as of this date, a lack of firefighting resources remained an issue due to the number of competing fires in southern California.*

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With winds continuing to switch between mild Santa Ana and a normal on shore flow, the **Cedar Fire** has been pushed in all directions. Extremely low humidities and high temperatures continued to hinder firefighting efforts. Evacuations remained in effect throughout the area. Many of the communities threatened were densely populated with old growth brush and poor clearance around homes. These conditions, coupled with the limited ingress and egress, presented additional challenges for firefighters.

The Cedar Fire reached Volcan Mountain, north of Julian. This elevated the threat level to the community of Julian, as it was now vulnerable from both the west and north sides. Several structures were lost on the outskirts of Julian; however, historic Julian remained intact. The Cuyamaca State Park

was ravaged by the Cedar Fire including most of the Park's buildings. Due to the complexities of the fire, a decision was made to zone (separate) the fire into two parts. The western part of the fire (Cedar West) would remain under management of the State Incident Command Team, with the eastern part of the fire (Cedar East) managed by a Federal National Team. Evacuations were lifted as the fire's threat level diminished in each community. Highway 79 from Pine Hills to Descanso remained closed.

Cuyamaca and Harrison Park were virtually wiped out in a firestorm with 200' tall flames in bug-killed timber.

Forty-three CDF firefighters were temporarily cut off and took refuge in Harrison Park.

More than 30,000 structures were threatened and 1,200 were destroyed over two previous days of the fire siege. Although 13,330 fire personnel were assigned as of this date, a lack of firefighting resources remained an issue due to the number of competing fires.

Good progress was made on the containment of the **Mountain Fire**. The fire was expected to remain within the containment lines barring

any further wind events. Twenty-one structures and 40 outbuildings were lost during the two-day fire event.



*OES engines from throughout the state responded to the fires to provide structure protection.*

- Mountain Fire 100% contained.

- The worst case scenario for Arrowhead unfolded, with fire on three sides of the community with the potential to be completely surrounded.

- Grand Prix, Simi, Old, Cedar and Paradise Fires continued to burn and threaten structures and communities. All fires reversed direction of spread as a result of wind changes from easterly to westerly.

- Mass evacuations and structure protection continued in most fire areas.

- Air quality in the urban areas began to improve.

- On the Simi Fire, the Stevenson Ranch development in LA County was under voluntary evacuation. Some citizens chose to shelter in their homes during peak burning periods. This community was built under strict fire codes resulting in the successful defense of the area.

*“We will never forget the people who stood up to mother nature’s fury to protect our homes and businesses, and to protect our lives. Engineer Rucker represents California’s best.”*

Gray Davis, Governor of California

## Major Resources Committed on October 29th

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (3)	35	169	13	30	328	59,229	35
Piru (7)	44	113	5	25	234	68,022	30
Simi (4)	24	261	10	35	210	105,665	40
Old (1)	44	371	11	9	181	47,960	10
Cedar (2)	47	533	4	26	605	251,000	15
Paradise (5)	30	133	8	10	103	49,800	20
Mountain	10	28	3	0	46	10,331	100
Padua (6)	10	50	0	4	100	10,223	80
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	65,970	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>668,200</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the “contained fires” section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command. \*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.

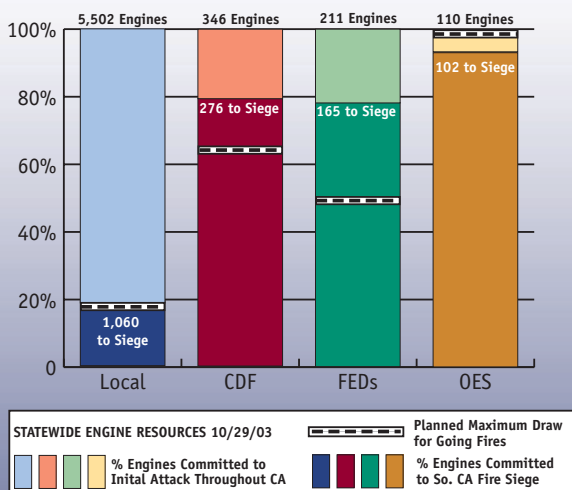
## Weather Facts

	Cajon Pass	Simi Valley	Julian Weather Station
Max. Temperature	78	67	73
Min. Rel. Humidity	18%	25%	34%
Wind	SE10 G18	W16 G30	SW13
Fire Danger	extreme	extreme	extreme

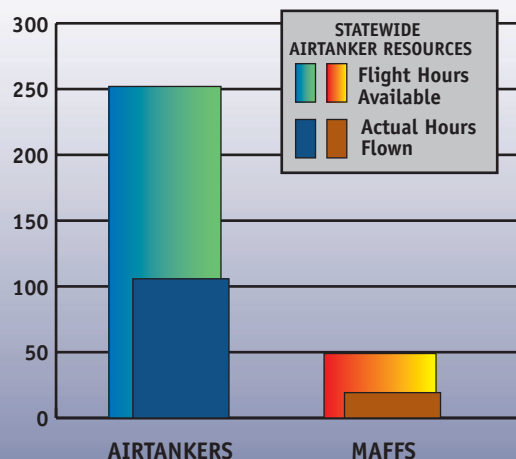
Remarks: Winds changed from an easterly Santa Ana to a westerly onshore flow, causing many fires to reverse direction.



## Resources Committed: Engines



## Resources Committed: Airtankers



## Community Impacts

- 200 foot high wall of flames reached Lake Arrowhead, where tree mortality caused by insects is widespread and intermixed in residential areas on the Old Fire.
- Simi Fire burned toward Santa Clarita.
- Much of the community of Julian is saved from the Cedar Fire.
- Grand Prix fire threatened communities in the high desert area of San Bernardino County near Hesperia.
- Governor Davis toured fire ravaged areas.
- The Joint Information Center received over 3,000 phone calls.
- Desert communities north and east of Cajon Pass to Hesperia were threatened.
- Lake Silverwood and Southpark received substantial burn damage.

## Human Factors

- A firefighter from Novato Fire Department was killed and three others injured while protecting homes in Julian.
- 18 fatalities reported to date.

## Decisions

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-5, National-3

- Governor Davis signed a proclamation promising the state will pick up a large share of the local government firefighting costs estimated at \$9 million per day.
- Cedar Fire used 2002 Pines Fire as a control line. Effects of the 7.2 miles of previous fuels reduction enhanced fire control capabilities on Southeast flank.
- A major accident review team was ordered to handle a "burnover" fatality investigation, which allowed Incident Commanders to refocus on the Cedar Fire suppression effort.
- Development in the urban interface was requiring redirection of resources from offensive (perimeter control) to defensive (structure protection) actions.

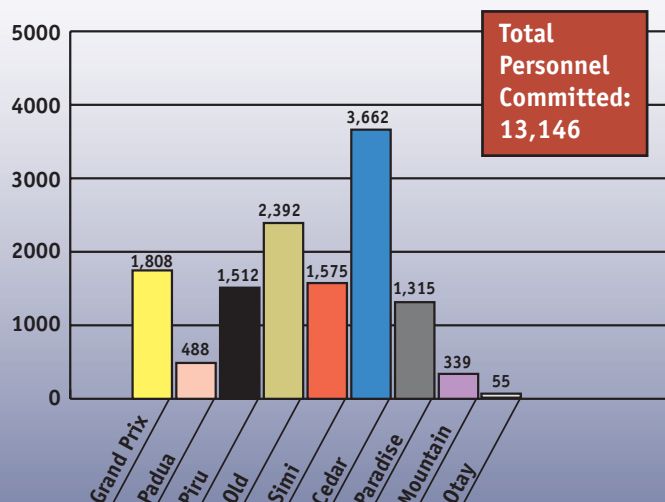
## Damage Assessment

- 2,126 residential, 11 commercial, 287 outbuildings burned to date during siege.
- 668,200 acres burned to date during siege.
- Estimated fire suppression costs to date: \$29,580,005

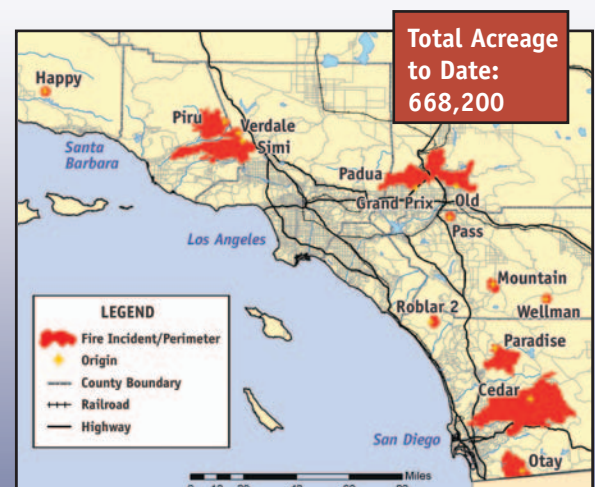


*Fire threatens mountain communities.*

## Personnel Committed: Day Nine



## Acreage Involved: Day Nine





- Old fire impacted a major communications site on Strawberry Peak.
- Portions of Hesperia were threatened and evacuated on Grand Prix Fire.
- Grand Prix Fire managed western portion of Old Fire.
- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 149 new wildland fires statewide.

## *"It's a war"*

### *Over 350 homes destroyed*

Although Red Flag conditions on the **Paradise Fire** resulted in sustained, hard fire runs, the fire did not cross Highway 76. As the fire reached 49,800 acres, evacuations remained in progress. FMAG was approved for the fire.

The **Mountain Fire** reached 100 percent containment today. Resources were demobilized allowing for reassignment to other southern California Fires.

On the **Old Fire**, active crown fires and flame lengths in excess of 200 feet were observed as the fire progressed overnight into Lake Silverwood/Miller Canyon area. With erratic winds predicted for the afternoon hours, the decision was made to divide the Old Fire in order

North/East Del Rosa East Highlands Ranch and Yucaipa – Muscoy areas. All other mandatory evacuations remained in effect with voluntary evacuations ordered for southern Hesperia. Additional evacuation centers were opened at the Apple Valley High School and the Hesperia Fairgrounds to accommodate additional evacuees. Interstate 15 up to Highway 18 remained closed.

Evacuation orders were lifted for the Lytle Creek area of the **Grand Prix Fire**. As the Federal National Team assumed responsibility for the western portion of the Old Fire, the fire made a significant run to the north toward the community of Hesperia. Mandatory evacuations were immediately activated for Oak Hills, Baldy Mesa, Silverwood Lake and Summit Valley. Structure protection was the number one priority for firefighters as the fire made its significant run. Despite the efforts of firefighters, the fire destroyed several structures in its path.

Strong winds, high temperatures, low humidities and low fuel moistures continued to challenge containment and control objectives on the **Padua Fire**. Firefighters protected the Mount Baldy community by conducting a successful firing operation and building containment lines overnight. Efforts continued throughout the day to secure the wildland interface along the Los Angeles County/Angeles National Forest Boundary. Voluntary evacuations continued in the Mount Baldy area. FMAG has been approved for this incident.

Diminishing northeast winds and cooler temperatures early in the day allowed firefighters on the **Simi Fire** to construct fireline along Potrero

Canyon. Steep terrain on the eastern edge of the fire hampered line production rates in that area. A strong westerly wind later in the day pushed the fire into the Stevenson Ranch area of Los Angeles County requiring an aggressive structure protection defense. Aggressive firefighting efforts kept the fire west of Interstate 5. One spot fire was quickly contained east of the interstate; however, the freeway was closed for a period of three hours due to fire activity in the vicinity. Evacuations of Stevenson Ranch took place



*The Red Cross served many of the 70,000 people that were evacuated from their San Bernardino County homes.*

to enhance management of the incident. Management for the western sector of Waterman Canyon was assigned to the Federal National Team from the Grand Prix Fire. All areas east of Waterman Canyon continued to be managed by the Federal National Team for the Old Fire. Air operations were hindered by erratic winds and poor visibility. By the end of the day, 350 residences were destroyed, 300 of which were located in the eastern Lake Arrowhead community. Mandatory evacuations were lifted for

during the peak burning periods. To date, there have been 21 residences destroyed and seven damaged in the fire. Agricultural losses are estimated at \$5.3 million.

The weather change contributed to the 10 percent increase in containment lines and decreased fire spread on the **Piru Fire**. During the day, fire continued to move into heavier fuels as the wind and spread direction continued to change. No further structure losses were reported.

The **Cedar Fire** continued to move in all directions in an area of old growth brush with poor clearance around structures and residential areas. Mandatory evacuations were in place for Julian, Pine Hills, Cuyamaca, Guatay and Wynola. Highway 79 remained closed from Pine Hills to Descanso. The fire burned into and destroyed structures in Julian, Pine Hills and Wynola. Low humidities, high temperatures and erratic winds continued to hinder firefighting efforts. Fire spotted over major roads and highways with 200-foot flame lengths observed. One firefighter died and three were injured while battling the fire in the Julian area. A major accident review team was ordered to investigate the burnover fatality.



*Left: As Santa Ana winds blow, homes are quickly evacuated. Right: Downed powerlines prohibit firefighters from moving forward.*





70,000 San Bernardino County residents evacuated during the Old Fire.

President Bush adds Riverside County to the Presidential Declaration of Major Disaster.

Mike Brown, head of FEMA and Governor Davis visited the city of San Diego and the OES headquarters regional office in Orange County.

Governor-Elect Schwarzenegger cut trip to Washington DC short. Returned to CA to tour ravaged fire areas. Visited Incident Command Post for the Old & Grand Prix Fires.

U.S. Senate passed Forest Health Initiative.

Two Federal Teams were ordered for Big Bear, Forest Falls, Angelus Oaks and Oak Glen areas for contingency planning and preparation.

*“The resource ordering system was overwhelmed. As the dispatch system continued to process orders as fast as possible, the Incident Commanders became very creative in using all the resources at their disposal until reinforcements could arrive.”*

Ron Raley, Deputy Director of Fire and Aviation  
U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region

## Major Resources Committed on October 30th

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (1)	32	173	12	26	302	59,358	75
Piru (4)	39	48	11	24	173	63,719	30
Simi (3)	21	221	7	28	190	107,240	60
Old (1)	46	469	14	12	277	91,281	15
Cedar (2)	49	533	21	26	605	272,318	42
Paradise (2)	26	146	11	21	163	56,000	30
Padua	2	5	1	0	1	10,446	95
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	76,301	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>736,663</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command. \*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.

## Weather Facts

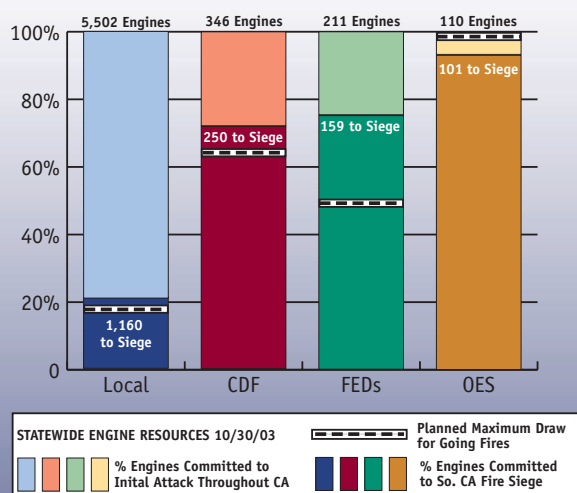
	Cajon Pass	Simi Valley	Julian Weather Station
Max. Temperature	65	50	68
Min. Rel. Humidity	60%	100%	44%
Wind	SW11 G23	W22 G43	SW12 G20
Fire Danger	moderate	low	moderate

*Remarks: Marine layer brought higher humidity and lower temperatures, reducing fire danger. Some precipitation forecasted.*

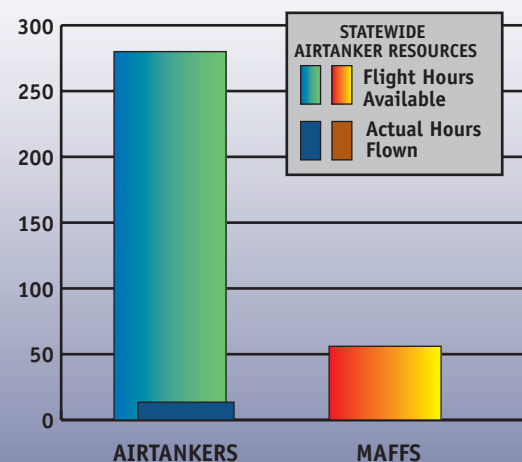
*Scorched hillsides create potential for mudslides when the winter rains come.*



## Resources Committed: Engines



## Resources Committed: Airtankers



## Community Impacts

- The Paradise Fire still threatening Deer Springs, Mesa Grande, La Jolla & Mt. Palomar.
- Structures threatened on the Grand Prix in Silverwood Lake and Summit Valley; but in other areas, the fire evacuation orders have been lifted.
- Simi Fire still threatened Santa Clarita, Stevenson Ranch and Porter Ranch.
- Cedar Fire still threatened Julian, Wynola and Pine Hills.
- Rehabilitation plans for fire areas being developed.
- The Old Fire still threatened Lake Arrowhead and Running Springs areas.
- Evacuations on the Padua Fire were lifted.
- Some evacuees allowed to return home.

## Human Factors

- 18 fatalities reported to date.
- 150 serious injuries reported to date.

## Decisions

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-5, National-3

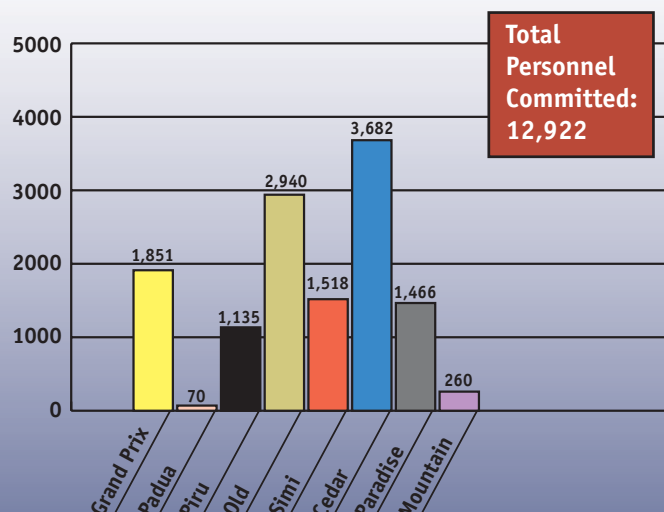
- The U.S. House of Representatives approved a record \$2.9 billion for firefighting and fire protection on Federal forests.
- An Area Command was established for the Old and Grand Prix Fires.
- Unified Command on the Old Fire has been divided into three geographical areas, each will be managed by a Federal Team.
- Moderate weather conditions occurred allowing an opportunity to construct direct fire lines.
- A Federal National Team was assigned to the Piru Fire in Unified Command with a State Incident Command Team.
- A Federal National Team assumed command of the east half of the Cedar Fire.



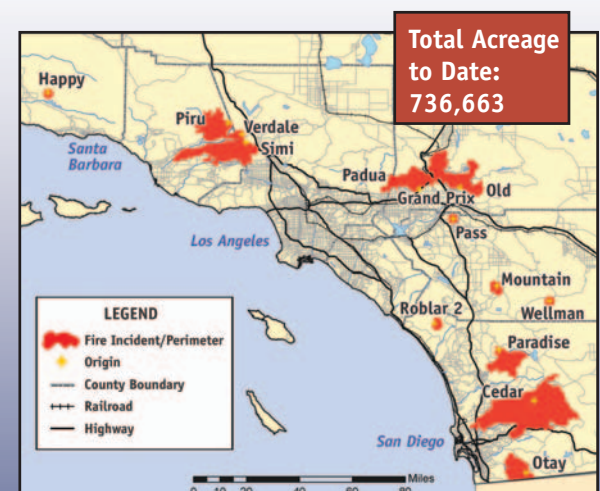
## Damage Assessment

- 2,809 residential, 31 commercial, 530 outbuildings burned to date during siege.
- 736,663 acres burned to date.
- Estimated fire suppression costs to date: \$50,669,842
- No additional structures burned on Old Fire today.

## Personnel Committed: Day Ten



## Acreage Involved: Day Ten



- Overnight higher humidities and drizzle caused portions of the Paradise Fire to lay down. Fire continued to make runs along the ridgetops. Threats to communities still remain.
- Grand Prix Fire expected to be contained, given forecasted weather and resource availability within 48 hours. Some evacuation orders lifted.
- While a long way from being contained, spread slowed considerably on the Simi, Old, Grand Prix and Cedar fires.
- Piru Fire spread changed from west to east and burned away from communities toward the Angeles National Forest.
- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 143 new wildland fires statewide.

## *The Fight Continues*

### *Progress being made*

Strong westerly winds pushed the **Simi Fire** into the Stevenson Ranch area requiring firefighters to provide aggressive structure protection. Line construction efforts were hampered overnight by the steep terrain and darkness. A spot fire was contained on the eastern side of the fire. Due to the fire activity, Interstate 5 was closed.

Structures in the Stevenson Ranch area remained at risk with structure protection in place. Fire activity moderated throughout the day, which allowed firefighters to conduct a firing operation in the Oat Mountain area. With the closure of I-5, there were concerns about major disruptions to commuters and commerce in the area.

As was common throughout southern California, the weather moderated on the **Piru Fire**. The fire burned into Sespe Condor Sanctuary overnight. This steep, rugged terrain was heavily loaded with fuels, which

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*On the Piru, fire continued to move into inaccessible terrain, which slowed firefighting production rates in those areas.*

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presented a concern for further spread of the fire. Fire continued to move into inaccessible terrain, which slowed firefighting production rates in those areas. Structure protection continued in Santa Paula and Fillmore.



*Firefighters take on the methodical effort of mopping up thousands of burned homes.*





*Utility workers organize their efforts to restore power and phones.*

With cooperation from the weather, the **Padua Fire** stood at 95 percent contained. The fire was expected to remain within containment lines. Demobilization of resources continued. Voluntary evacuations remained in effect for the Mount Baldy area. Mop-up and patrol of the fire area continued.

Overnight, additional structures were lost in the North Lake Arrowhead area as the **Old Fire** continued moving unimpeded, exhibiting rapid uphill runs and spotting. More than 40,000 residents remained evacuated. Due to the complexities of the incident, the U.S. Forest Service ordered two more Federal teams to do contingency planning and preparation in the Big Bear Lake area. The weather moderated throughout the day enabling firefighters to begin construction of containment lines in the North Lake Arrowhead area. The spread of the fire slowed due to the weather's cooperation.

With higher humidities and decreased temperatures, firefighters made good progress on the **Grand Prix Fire**. Evacuation orders were lifted in the area of Baldy Mesa and Oak Hills west of Interstate 15. Highway 173 remained closed at Arrowhead Lake Road, and Summit Valley Road was closed at Interstate 15.

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*"We can almost see the end of the fires."*

Andrea Tuttle, Director  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

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The entire eastern flank of the Cedar Fire spread into the 60,000 acre Pines Wildfire of 2002 allowing firefighters to contain that flank. Reduced fire behavior as a result of damp weather conditions allowed for aggressive perimeter control on the remainder of the fire.

- Governor Davis and Governor-Elect Schwarzenegger visited Claremont Emergency Relief Center. They promised aid to fire victims.
- Help poured in for thousands left homeless by fires. Donations collected by Red Cross amount to \$40,000 by the end of the day.
- Funds set up for seven firefighters in Julian who lost their homes while they battled structure fires for others.
- Cedar fire Incident Command Teams reported making outstanding progress. Predicted containment in three days.
- Fire commanders took advantage of weather change to increase fireline production rates. All fires reported making outstanding progress and received precipitation in varying amounts.
- The potential for flooding became a concern for county OES officials in San Bernardino and Riverside counties.
- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 157 new wildland fires statewide.

*"The interagency structure and safety plan resulted in the smoothest and most effective unified command I have ever seen."*

Don Studebaker, IC Federal National Team, Grand Prix Fire

## Major Resources Committed on October 31st

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (1)	36	178	14	22	318	59,358	95
Piru (4)	35	37	11	24	179	63,991	50
Simi (3)	31	181	6	29	195	108,204	85
Old (1)	81	408	16	37	467	91,281	45
Cedar (2)	49	667	21	41	605	273,246	65
Paradise (2)	30	157	13	25	195	56,700	50
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	86,727	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>739,507</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command.  
\*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.

## Weather Facts

	Cajon Pass	Simi Valley	Julian Weather Station
Max. Temperature	60	45	59
Min. Rel. Humidity	52%	100%	49%
Wind	SW8 G20	W16 G34	SW13 G24
Fire Danger	<<LOW to MODERATE>>		

Remarks: Fires received varied amounts of precipitation throughout the day. Cooler temperatures & higher humidity will assist fire containment.

## Community Impacts

- Grand Prix Fire growth expected to slow over the next 48 hours due to forecasted rain & snow in the area.
- Fire officials review safety concerns in fire areas as they consider re-population of communities. Down power lines, fire weakened trees, disoriented animals, and damaged roads must be dealt with prior to re-entry to affected areas.

## Human Factors

- 216 serious injuries reported to date.
- Two fatalities occurred in San Diego City at the time of the fires, unable to attribute to specific fire.
- 22 fatalities reported to date.
- Human remains found in Lakeside. Unknown cause of death.

## Decisions

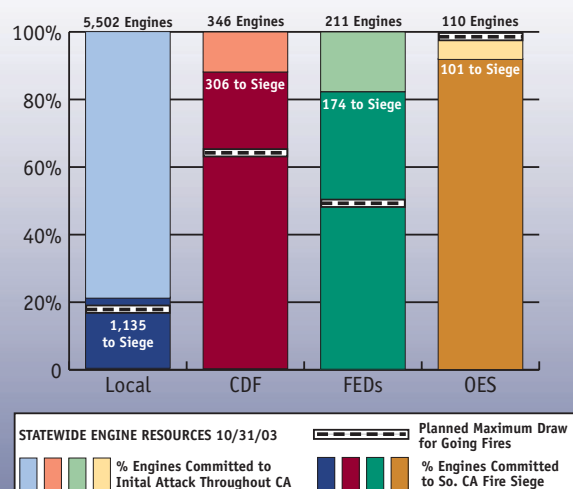
Preparedness levels: South Ops-5, National-3

- Federal National Team assumes command of Piru Fire.

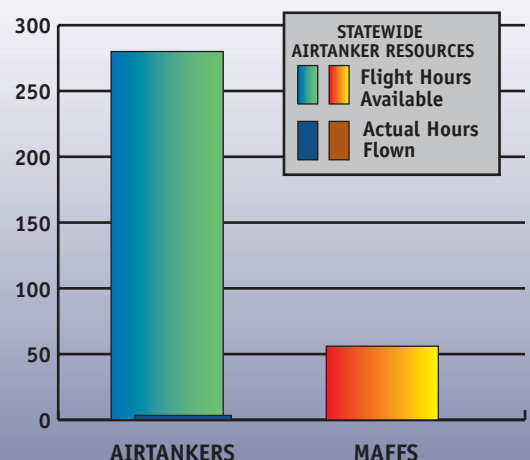
## Damage Assessment

- 3,492 residential, 53 commercial, 1,387 outbuildings burned to date during siege.
- 739,507 acres burned to date during the siege. (Adjustments made to acreage due to better mapping.)
- Estimated fire suppression costs to date: \$50,669,842
- Damage assessment process started on the Cedar Fire.

## Resources Committed: Engines



## Resources Committed: Airtankers



# Weather Forecasts Bode Well for Efforts

## Firefighters, citizens see hope

Much of the **Paradise Fire** laid down during the night as a result of light rain over the incident. The fire, however, continued to make runs along the ridge tops due to strong, gusty winds and low fuel moistures. Residents were able to gain entrance into the Palomar Mountain area to gather their personal belongings. Firefighters made good progress given

As the weather continued to give firefighters a break on the **Old Fire**, crews aggressively attacked the fire. Structure protection continued in all affected mountain communities. Dozer lines were completed around the Big Bear community. Contingency lines were improved to the forest boundary on existing roads. Arson was established as

The spread of the **Simi Fire** slowed considerably due to the change in weather. Good progress was made to improve containment lines. Demobilization of excess resources began. Losses to date were estimated to be in excess of \$17.1 million.

The **Piru Fire** progressed toward the Los Padres National Forest, Santa Paula and Ojai today. The fire burned mainly in grass, brush and some timber, it moved into inaccessible terrain well within the Los Padres National Forest. A Federal National Team was assigned in Unified Command. Firefighters looked forward to the assistance of some possible rain today.

On the **Cedar Fire**, the lower temperatures, higher humidities and light winds assisted the firefighting efforts throughout the day. With the loss of a primary communication site, fireline communications became a problem. The massive outpouring of support shown by the communities to the firefighters provided a much-needed boost to their morale. To date, 2,207 residences, 22 commercial buildings and 515 outbuildings had been destroyed in this human caused fire. There were 16 fatalities reported on this fire.

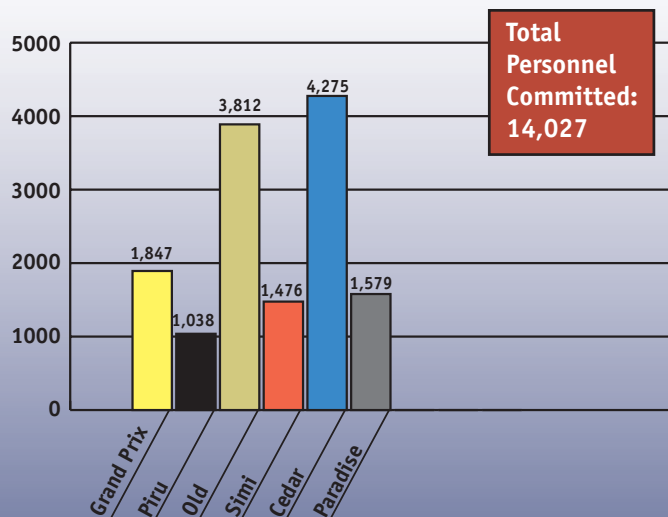
*...Paradise Fire laid down during the night as a result of light rain...weather continued to give firefighters a break on the Old Fire...On the Cedar Fire, the lower temperatures, higher humidities and light winds assisted the firefighting efforts.*

the very difficult terrain in the area of the fire.

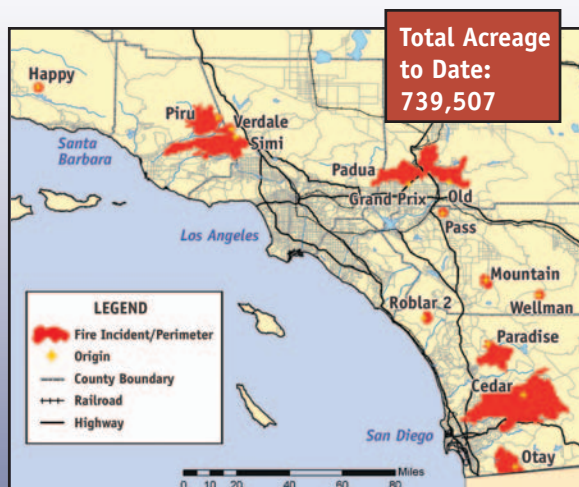
Unified Command on the **Padua Fire** was relinquished to the Angeles National Forest for perimeter control and to Los Angeles County Fire and San Bernardino County Fire for structure protection in each of their respective areas. Demobilization of fire resources continued today for reassignment as needed. All evacuation orders were lifted.

Silverwood Lake and Summit Valley and good progress toward containment of the **Grand Prix Fire** was made today. Evacuations for all other areas of the fire had been lifted. Highway 173 remained closed at Arrowhead Lake Road. Summit Valley Road was closed at I-15. It was projected the Grand Prix Fire will be 100 percent contained on November 2, 2003.

Personnel Committed: Day Eleven



Acreage Involved: Day Eleven





# November 1–4, 2003 (Sat.–Tues)

## NOVEMBER 1, 2003

- Governor Gray Davis and Secretary Tom Ridge, Office of Homeland Security, tour Simi Fire and visited local assistance Center in Claremont to affirm assistance to fire victims.
- As fire containment rises, many fire areas transitioned into mopping up fire perimeters, and unburned fuels within the perimeter, especially near structures.
- Excess fire resources were demobilized home or reassigned to other uncontained fires. Structure protection was still in place on most fires.
- No further fire growth was expected on the Grand Prix Fire.
- Cause of most fires was still under investigation.
- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 198 new wildland fires statewide.

*"In times of tragedy, people do come together. I think there is no greater example than what we have seen with the firefighters from local, state, Forest Service and federal partners who have worked long and hard to protect people's homes and personal property. They are an inspiration to us all."*

Secretary Ann Veneman  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

## Major Resources Committed on November 1st

As fires are contained resources are reassigned to other uncontained priority fires.

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (1)	31	145	12	13	264	59,448	95
Piru	10	0	3	7	120	63,991	80
Simi	2	0	2	3	132	108,204	95
Old (1)	90	386	16	71	608	91,281	65
Cedar (2)	79	722	32	55	553	273,246	90
Paradise (2)	51	152	12	15	197	56,700	65
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	86,727	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>739,597</b>	<b>N/A</b>

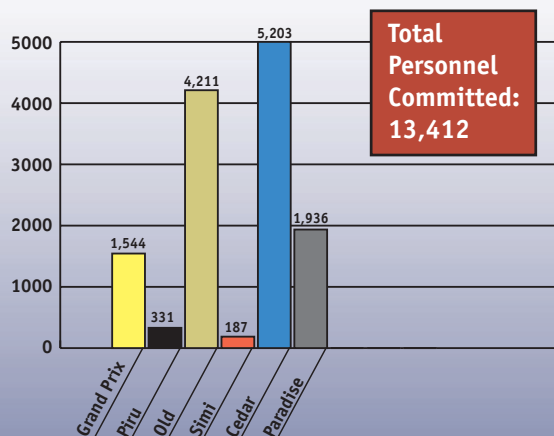
Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command.  
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## Major Resources Committed on November 2nd

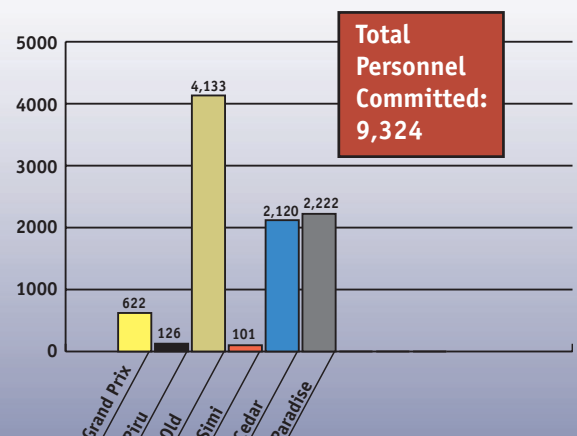
Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (1)	9	11	2	10	238	59,448	95
Piru (3)	4	0	3	8	27	63,991	85
Simi	4	0	2	1	95	108,204	100
Old (1)	88	356	17	52	766	91,281	78
Cedar (2)	37	242	31	42	422	273,246	95
Paradise (2)	62	143	19	18	196	56,700	75
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	86,727	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>1,744</b>	<b>739,597</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command.  
\*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.

## Personnel Committed: Day Twelve



## Personnel Committed: Day Thirteen



## Major Resources Committed on November 3rd

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (1)	9	6	0	9	226	59,448	97
Piru (3)	4	0	2	4	27	63,991	85
Old (1)	73	156	16	24	768	91,281	93
Cedar (2)	34	119	4	4	480	273,246	99
Paradise (2)	56	103	11	16	192	56,700	77
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	194,931	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1,724</b>	<b>739,597</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command. \*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.

## Major Resources Committed on November 4th

Name (priority)	Crews	Engines*	Helicopters	Dozers	Overhead	Acres	% Contained
Grand Prix (1)	9	0	0	7	171	69,894	98
Piru (3)	3	0	2	0	17	63,991	90
Old (1)	41	70	6	17	468	91,281	96
Paradise (2)	56	70	16	14	176	56,700	85
Contained Fires	-	-	-	-	-	468,177	100
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>750,043</b>	<b>N/A</b>

Data used above was extracted from the Incident Status Summary (209) or other best available data for each fire. When a fire is 100% contained, the fire name is deleted but the acreage burned is added to the "contained fires" section to display a cumulative summary of all acres burned to date throughout the siege. Priorities are based on Area Command. \*Number of engines reported by incident may not reflect engines that responded during initial attack and were not included in automated agency systems. Engines may have been double counted when fires were split into separate incidents.



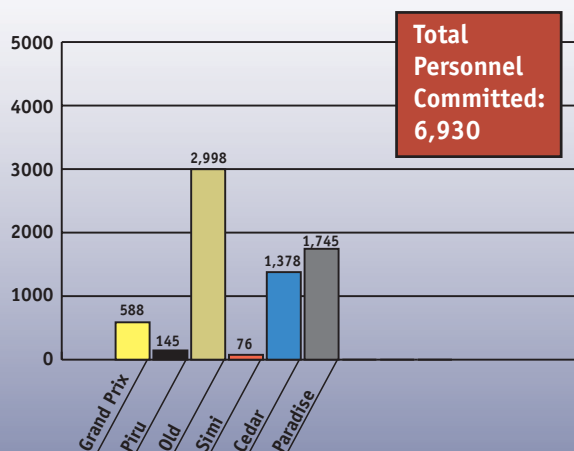
## Weather Facts

CAJON PASS	11/1	11/2	11/3	11/4
Max. Temperature	61	61	52	61
Min. Rel. Humidity	55%	54%	77%	43%
Wind	SW6 G14	SW5 G13	S7 G13	S5 G10
SIMI VALLEY	11/1	11/2	11/3	11/4
Max. Temperature	46	44	43	46
Min. Rel. Humidity	100%	100%	100%	100%
Wind	W14 G26	W14 G26	W20 G35	W9 G17
JULIAN	11/1	11/2	11/3	11/4
Max. Temperature	63	63	57	64
Min. Rel. Humidity	41%	42%	76%	38%
Wind	SW5 G13	SW10 G18	SW8 G16W9 G16	

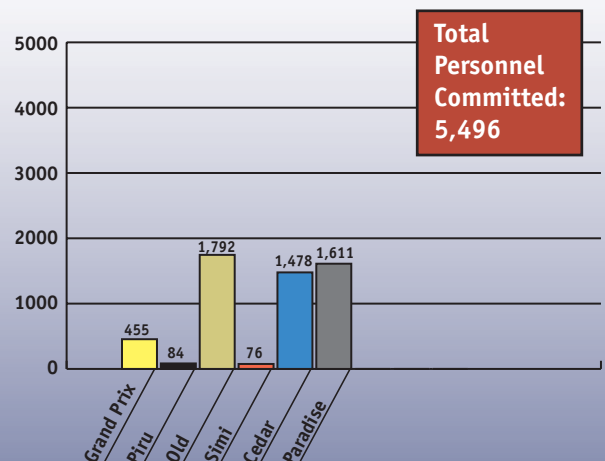
### ● NOVEMBER 2, 2003

- Old Fire continued direct fireline construction, structure protection, mop up, damage surveys, reduction of hazardous fuels around structures and the felling of hazardous trees. Completed all contingency lines in four divisions.
- All remaining direct line construction on the Paradise Fire required hand lines, because of poor access and thick decadent brush.
- Paradise Fire planned firing operations if weather permitted.
- Demobilization of local government firefighting resources on Cedar, as well as out of state equipment. Priority in demob given to local resources to re-staff local fire stations.

## Personnel Committed: Day Fourteen



## Personnel Committed: Day Fifteen



- Mop up and rehab progressed on Grand Prix Fire. Infrared intelligence indicated only a minimal amount of heat remained on this incident. No fire spread was predicted. Fire perimeter was patrolled and significant demobilization of excess resources occurred.
- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 203 new wildland fires statewide.
- **NOVEMBER 3, 2003**
- Governor Gray Davis, Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, 44th Congressional District Rep Ken Calvert and 45th Congressional District Rep Bono visited South Ops for a briefing on the fire situation and a short press conference.
- Paradise Fire identified fire suppression repair needs and performed work where possible. Rainfall resulted in wet and muddy roads that restricted travel in and out of the work areas. Mop up continues.
- Simi Fire rehab efforts continued through the week. The efforts were delayed due to rain.

*“Normally, around fire camp there is a lot of joking around and camaraderie. There is a depression around this fire camp. They know it’s different.”*

Robert Lewin  
Branch Director, Grand Prix Fire  
Battalion Chief, CDF–San Luis Obispo

## Community Impacts

### November 1, 2003

- Rehabilitation planning of fire areas was developed.
- Paradise Fire continued to threaten communities of Mesa Grande, La Jolla and Mt. Palomar. Resources threatened are Native American cultural sites, Cleveland National Forest, Lake Henshaw watershed and threatened & endangered species habitat.
- Rock and mudslides began on roads in some areas.
- Old Fire continued to threaten Lake Arrowhead and Running Springs.
- Some fire area residents were allowed to return home.

### November 2, 2003

- Lake Arrowhead & surrounding communities were still threatened by the Old Fire.
- Mesa Grande, La Jolla and Mt. Palomar were still threatened by the Paradise fire.
- La Jolla and Mt. Palomar opened to residents only. Many areas were still closed to general public.
- Road systems on the Cedar Fire were opened to residents only.
- Evacuation orders remained in effect for Silverwood Lake on the Old Fire.
- South bound Highway 138 closed. Lytle Creek Road was reopened.

### November 4, 2003

- Unprotected soil subject to erosion where soil stabilization and erosion control measures were not in place.

## Human Factors

### November 1, 2003

- Falling crews remove hazardous trees for firefighter and public safety. Utility companies warned homeowners of powerline dangers.
- 22 confirmed fatalities related to fires.
- 181 serious injuries to date.

### November 2, 2003

- 22 fatalities reported to date.
- 210 serious injuries to date.
- Tree faller with possible concussion was airlifted to hospital on the Old Fire.
- 9,324 fire personnel committed to date.

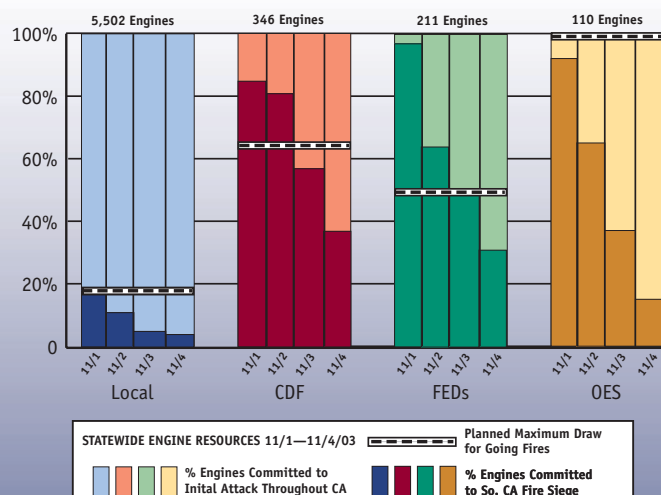
### November 3, 2003

- 22 fatalities reported to date.
- 225 serious injuries to date

### November 4, 2003

- 22 fatalities reported to date. Two additional fatalities were later attributed to the fires, bringing the fire fatality total to 24.
- 237 serious injuries to date.

## Resources Committed: Engines, Nov. 1-4, 2003







## Decisions

### November 1, 2003

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-5, National-3

### November 2, 2003

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-4, National-3

### November 3, 2003

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-3, National-3

### November 4, 2003

Preparedness Levels: South Ops-3, National-2

- The Unified Area Coordination Team for the Cedar and Paradise Fires was deactivated.

## Damage Assessment

### November 1, 2003

- 3,530 residential, 33 commercial and 1,087 outbuildings burned to date during siege.
- 745,630 acres burned to date during siege.
- Estimated \$74,934,483 fire suppression costs to date.
- Damage assessment surveys continued.

### November 2, 2003

- 3,530 residential, 53 commercial and 1,448 outbuildings burned to date.
- No additional structure loss reported.
- 744,626 acres burned to date during siege.
- Estimated \$84,247,132 fire suppression costs to date during siege.
- Damage assessments continue.

### November 3, 2003

- 3,612 residential, 54 commercial and 1,484 outbuildings burned to date.
- 739,597 total acres burned to date.
- \$99,712,209 fire suppression costs to date.

### November 4, 2003

- 3,657 residential, 56 commercial and 1,484 outbuildings burned to date.
- 750,043 acres burned to date.
- Estimated \$123,108,801 fire suppression costs to date.



- Evacuees from Old Fire residents returned to mountain communities. Mop up and rehab continued. Prepared for transition to new Incident Command Team on Wednesday, November 6.

- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 141 new wildland fires statewide.

### NOVEMBER 4, 2003

- President Bush, Governor Davis, Governor-Elect Schwarzenegger and other dignitaries greeted firefighters and homeowners on the Cedar Fire.

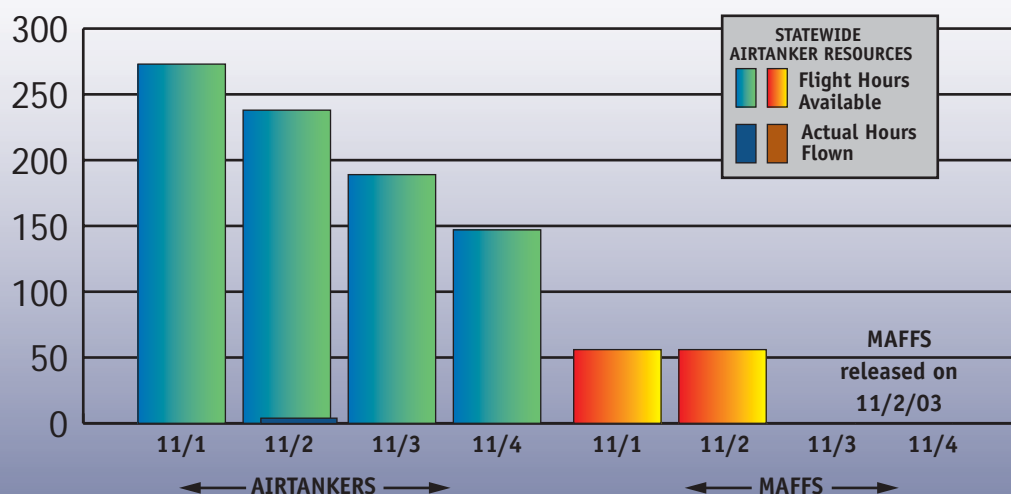
- Cedar Fire 100% contained.

- Cedar fire lifted all evacuations. Fireline repair efforts, mop up and rehab continued.

- Grand Prix Fire evacuation orders lifted. Entry into Silverwood Lake and surrounding areas restricted to residents only.

- California Fire Agencies responded to and contained 135 new wildland fires statewide.

## Resources Committed: Airtankers, Nov. 1-4, 2003



## Aftermath of the Siege

### Containment and clean up

Rain and snow arrived in southern California allowing firefighters to make tremendous progress in containing the fires throughout the area.

During the first four days of November, the **Grand Prix Fire** reached 98 percent containment. The cause of this fire remained under investigation. A total of 135 residences, one commercial property and 60 outbuildings were burned. One helicopter was damaged in the fire.

The **Paradise Fire** was deemed to have been human caused. By November 4, 2003, firefighters achieved 90 percent containment. The fire continued to smolder and creep along with no further significant runs. A total of 221 structures and 192 outbuildings were destroyed.

The **Old Fire** had consumed a total of 91,281 acres and was the cause of six civilian deaths. It destroyed 993 residences, 10 commercial buildings and 300 outbuildings. The cause of the fire was identified as human caused. Minimal fire

activity was noted was well within the fire's perimeters.

The **Piru Fire** continued to burn in steep, inaccessible terrain well within the containment lines. One structure, one commercial building, and six outbuildings were burned over the life of this fire. The cause of this fire remains under investigation.

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*“The Department of Homeland Security and FEMA will do all we can to help affected families and businesses recover from their losses as we continue to support the state’s firefighting efforts.”*

Michael D. Brown, FEMA Director and  
Undersecretary for Emergency Preparedness  
and Response at Homeland Security

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On November 4, 2003, the 273,246-acre **Cedar Fire** was declared 100 percent contained. During the 10-day life of the fire, the Cedar Fire destroyed 2,232 residences, 22 commercial properties, 566 outbuildings, and caused 14 fatalities—13 civilian and one firefighter.

### Acreage Involved: Oct. 21–Nov. 4, 2003

